

Subject: Fwd: AAD and White Box in 2013-2014

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 4:07:16 PM Pacific Standard Time

From: Tina M. Rinaldi

To: Patricia Dewey

Hi Patricia,

I'm going off-line here to send you some documents that will help to contextualize some of the issues that Kate brings up below. The documents I've attached are the original organizing documents that helped shape the focus and structure of the gallery. I've also attached a 5-year budget plan that was created in collaboration with Doug and Kate. This document reflects their thinking on the resources that would be necessary to run the gallery in the way it was conceptualized. Clearly, these resources were never forthcoming, but this serves as the budget model for what could truly support a professional, academic gallery according to Kate and Doug. I thought reviewing these docs would help inform your response.

I've attached the following:

1. WB 5-yr Budget (last modified 2/15/11)
2. White Stag Proposal (last modified 5/21/09)
3. White Box Proposal AAD (last modified 7/20/10)
4. White Box Proposal Art (last modified 7/23/10)
5. White Box Proposal Art History (last modified 7/23/10)

Items 3, 4, and 5 were solicited from A&AA units when funding from UO Portland Academic Affairs Vice-Provost Wendy Larson was pulled. As you will recall, the White box was originally a 3-year experiment supported by Academic Affairs, who pulled funding after the first year and turned it over to A&AA. We are now in year 4 and it is evident that sustainable funding is not forthcoming from units beyond AAD and the A&AA Dean's office.

There is no question that White Box has been an exemplary endeavor. Extraordinary things have occurred in that space despite the limited budget and the skeleton staff. I truly wish it could reach its potential and that the funding that we all knew it would require were forthcoming.

Let's talk about this when you return.

All the best,

Tina

TINA RINALDI, Managing Director
Arts & Administration Program | <http://aad.uoregon.edu/>
Center for Community Arts & Cultural Policy | <http://ccacp.uoregon.edu/>
5230 University of Oregon | Lawrence Hall 251-F | Eugene, OR 97403-5230
541.346.3989 office | trinaldi@uoregon.edu

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Kate Wagle <kwagle@uoregon.edu>
Subject: Re: AAD and White Box in 2013-2014
Date: February 8, 2013 4:42:00 PM PST
To: Patricia Dewey <pdewey@uoregon.edu>
Cc: Brook Muller <bmuller@uoregon.edu>, Doug Blandy <dblandy@uoregon.edu>, Tina Rinaldi <trinaldi@uoregon.edu>, Frances Bronet <fbronet@uoregon.edu>

Dear Patricia,

Yes, I read both your memo and rationale, and understand that you thought this through carefully. However, my participation in, and/or response to, that process has been limited. In example, we had talked last month about budget support from my office and from Art to assist with Portland AAD program development and research, and a revised White Box budget model respectively. At that time I told you that I was unsure of what I had to contribute, was seeking clarity on budget issues, and wanted to know what was needed. I don't recall receiving a proposal from or additional conversation with you-all in that regard. Regarding Art, my recollection is that they would have a better sense of how they could contribute in March, and that there were other models to discuss with them.

I'm also concerned about AAD's, and UO's future relationships with partners like Ford Family Foundation, who have supported White Box infrastructure and publication grants, PICA, whose director serves on the White Box advisory committee, or the future of any White Box conversation within the School if we have to close it down after establishing such an impressive growth arc. Regarding professionalism, I'm not sure to what you're referring, but public perception of the White Box is very positive, and professional enough to have been named best new gallery and invited to join the very picky PADA group.

I regret losing the opportunity for further discussion and nuanced planning.
Thanks,
Kate

Kate Wagle
School of Architecture and Allied Arts
Associate Dean and Director
Professor of Art
University of Oregon Portland
70 NW Couch Street, #441
Portland, OR 97209-4038
503-412-3718
kwagle@uoregon.edu

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<http://whitebox.uoregon.edu/>
<http://www.facebook.com/WhiteBoxUOPDX>
<http://twitter.com/whiteboxuo>

From: Patricia Dewey <pdewey@uoregon.edu>
Date: Friday, February 8, 2013 2:18 PM

To: Doug Blandy <dblandy@uoregon.edu>, Kate Wagle <kwagle@uoregon.edu>
Cc: "Tina M. Rinaldi" <trinaldi@uoregon.edu>, Frances Bronet <fbronet@uoregon.edu>
Subject: Re: AAD and White Box in 2013-2014

Dear Doug and Kate,

I'd like to take a moment to respond to your two messages of yesterday, Kate, as well as Doug's message of yesterday evening.

The memo that was attached to the initial message I sent yesterday outlined the specific reasons for my decision. I've attached this memo again for easy reference.

This decision was made with very careful and thoughtful consideration, and I would like to re-emphasize that AAD will certainly consider investing in the White Box Gallery within the context of the restructuring, realignment, and initiation of collaborative Portland-based programs. AAD has invested more than \$80,000 in the White Box Gallery so far, and while we are eager to see this gallery continue its excellent work, our program's finances will not allow for continuation of this annual investment in its current unsustainable structure.

As you know, AAD continues to invest heavily in developing entrepreneurial programs and initiatives that are Portland based. We welcome the opportunity to continue the conversation with our academic partners about museum studies, curatorial studies, and the White Box, but our small academic unit is not able to unilaterally support these initiatives.

Sincerely,
Patricia

Patricia Dewey, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Director
Arts and Administration Program
University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon 97403-5230
541-346-2050

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From: Doug Blandy <dblandy@uoregon.edu>
Date: Thursday, February 7, 2013 7:25 PM
To: Patricia Dewey <pdewey@uoregon.edu>
Cc: Tina Rinaldi <trinaldi@uoregon.edu>, Kate Wagle <kwagle@uoregon.edu>, Frances Bronet <fbronet@uoregon.edu>
Subject: Fwd: AAD and White Box in 2013-2014

Patricia,

Kate Wagle brought this decision on your part to my attention.

For a variety of reasons I urge you to rethink this decision in relationship to AAD's ambitions in Portland and the importance of forging strategic alliances to advance those ambitions. The White Box is one of the most visible manifestations of the UO's influence on Portland arts. AAD and two of

its graduates have contributed to that influence and have benefitted as a result.

Doug

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kate Wagle <kwagle@uoregon.edu>
Date: February 7, 2013, 6:51:46 PM PST
To: Doug Blandy <dblandy@uoregon.edu>
Subject: Fwd: AAD and White Box in 2013-2014

FYI...it has come to pass. Any chance we could talk about this briefly next week? I'm in Eugene Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning.

K

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Patricia Dewey <pdewey@uoregon.edu>
Date: February 7, 2013 12:41:28 PM PST
To: Kate Wagle <kwagle@uoregon.edu>
Cc: Frances Bronet <fbronet@uoregon.edu>, Brook Muller <bmuller@uoregon.edu>, Renee Irvin <rirvin@uoregon.edu>, Laura Vandenberg <lkvanden@uoregon.edu>, Charles Lachman <clachman@uoregon.edu>, Phaedra Livingstone <phaedra@uoregon.edu>, Tina Rinaldi <trinaldi@uoregon.edu>
Subject: AAD and White Box in 2013-2014

Dear Kate,

Thank you again for forwarding to me a number of copies of the beautiful White Box publication. It is wonderful to see the artistic success of this gallery, and AAD looks forward to continuing conversations with our academic partners in Eugene and Portland regarding museum studies, curatorial studies, and the prospective future role of the White Box in these initiatives.

As AAD begins to prepare for specific strategic steps and activities in 2013-2014, we are looking very carefully at all our current investments. I regret to inform you that AAD will not be providing financial support of the White Box Gallery in FY 2013-2014. The attached memo details the reasons for my decision.

The Arts and Administration Program continues to welcome the opportunity to collaborate with our academic partners and to work with

AAA Portland Programs in seeking to identify a more sustainable management structure for the White Box Gallery.

Sincerely,
Patricia

Patricia Dewey, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Director
Arts and Administration Program
University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon 97403-5230
541-346-2050

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